Rise in milk prices

344. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rise in the milk prices effected by DMS & Mother Dairy recently in the Capital;

(b) when the milk prices were raised last and the percentage by which the prices were raised then;

(c) what are the reasons for recent hike in milk prices;

(d) what is the percentage of rise in the milk prices in other States in the country as a consequence thereof;

(e) what is its likely impact on the consumer as a whole and people belonging to the weaker sections of the society in particular; and

(f) what measures Government propose to take to bring down milk prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The percentage of rise in the milk prices effected by Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) and Mother Dairy with effect from 30-12-1988 is 36.3 per cent and 42.8 per cent respectively.

(b) The prices of toned milk sold by DMS were earlier raised by 22.2% with effect from 9|4|1985 and the prices of Mother Dairy toned milk were raised by 2.9% from 1-7-1985.

(c) The reasons for increase in milk prices are:—

(i) Higher procurement prices of fresh milk paid to rural producers.

(ii) Increase in the prices of conserved commodities like Butter Oil, Skimmed Milk Powder, and Butter used for recombination.

(iii) Increase in other operating and overhead costs.

(d) At the time of price increases by DMS and Mother Dairy, the prices of milk of comparable quality marketed by various States/Cooperative Dairies in major cities were generally higher than those charged by DMS and Mother Dairy. Government have not received any reports of rise in milk prices in other States as a consequence of price increase effected by DMS and Mother Dairy.

(e) No survey has been conducted to assess the impact of price increase on consumers belonging to different economic categories.

(f) No measures are being proposed to bring down the prices of milk charged by DMS and Mother Dairy.

Shortage of pig iron

345. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints of acute shortage of pig iron from the small scale industries organisation and if so, what is the present production of pig iron and requirement of industry;

(b) whether there are complaints about distribution of imported pig iron and whether pig iron imported is not suitable to small scale foundaries working in India due to high Sulphur content; and

(c) whether any long term solution is being worked out by Government?